

Enrique Desmond Arias

Enrique Desmond Arias is Marx Professor of Western Hemisphere Affairs at Baruch College and the Director of the Bildner Center of Western Hemisphere Studies at the Graduate Center, City University of New York. He received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin, Madison in Political Science. He served as LASA Program Co-Chair for the 2024 Congress in Bogotá and as co-chair of the Brazil section from 2012 to 2014. He was a Fulbright Visiting Professor at the Instituto Universitário de Pesquisas do Rio de Janeiro (IUPERJ), now the Instituto de Estudos Sociais e Políticos (IESP) of the Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro. He has been a visiting researcher at the Instituto Colombiano de Antropología e Historia, the Centro de Estudos de Criminalidade e Segurança Pública at the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, and at the University of the West Indies at Mona. He has held a visiting fellowship at the Freie Universität Berlin. He served on the Social Science Research Council's Committee on Drugs, Security, and Democracy. He was a member faculty evaluation committee for the Programa de Política de Drogas of the Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE).

Employment

Bernard M. Baruch College, City University of New York

Austin E. Marx Professor of Western Hemisphere Affairs,
Marx School of Policy and International Affairs, 2018 to present.

The Graduate School and University Center, City University of New York

Director, Bildner Center for Western Hemisphere Affairs, 2023 to Present.

Political Science Doctoral Program, The Graduate Center, 2018 to Present.

Criminal Justice Doctoral Program, The Graduate Center, 2006 to 2013.

George Mason University

Senior Fellow, Schar School of Policy and Government 2018 to 2022.

Associate Professor, Schar School of Policy and Government, 2013 to 2018.

John Jay College of Criminal Justice and the Graduate Center, City University of New York

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, John Jay College, 2007 to 2013.

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, John Jay College, 2002 to 2006.

Education

University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

Ph.D. in Political Science awarded December 2001.

M.A. in Political Science awarded in December 1994.

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

B.A. in with Honors in Political Science awarded May 1993.

Publications:

Books:

Arias, Enrique Desmond and Thomas Grisaffi eds. 2021. *Cocaine: From Coca Fields to the Streets*. Durham: Duke University Press.

Review in *Contemporary Sociology*, *Hispanic American Historical Review*, *Journal of Global South Studies*, *Bulletin of Latin American Research*.

**Selected for Knowledge Unlatched 2022 HSS Books Open Access List*

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2017. *Criminal Enterprises and Governance in Latin American and the Caribbean*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Reviewed in *Perspectives on Politics, Latin American Politics and Society, Latin American Research Review, and Gestión y Política Pública*.

**Subject of an Author Meets Critics Panel at the Southern Political Science Association*

United Nations office of Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Programme on Human Settlements (UNHABITAT). Primary Author. 2011. *Introductory Handbook on Policing Urban Space*. New York: United Nations. 153 pages.

Arias, Enrique Desmond and Daniel Goldstein, editors. 2010. *Violent Democracy in Latin America: Toward an Interdisciplinary Reconceptualization*. Durham: Duke University Press.

Reviewed in *Anthropological Quarterly, Canadian Journal of History, Latin American Research Review, Hispanic American Historical Review, Ethnohistory, Perspectives on Politics, American Journal of Sociology, A Contra Corriente, Journal of Anthropological Research, Latin American Politics and Society, Political Studies Review, European Review of Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Journal of Peace Research, and the Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*.

**Chosen for a Critical Dialogues exchange in Perspectives on Politics*

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2006. *Drugs and Democracy in Rio de Janeiro: Trafficking, Social Networks, and Public Security*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.

Reviewed in *Perspectives on Politics, Choice, the Journal of Latin American Studies, Qualitative Sociology, The Americas, the Latin Americanist, Global Crime, Contemporary Sociology, and the British Journal of Criminology*.

Edited Journal Issues

Burt, Jo-Marie and Enrique Desmond Arias. 2024. "Impunidad." *LASA Forum* 55: 2.

Arias, Enrique Desmond and Jo-Marie Burt. 2023. "The 'New' Extreme Right in Latin America." *LASA Forum* 54:4.

Enrique Desmond Arias and Jorge Larena Salas. 2012. "Violencia en Barrios en América Latina: Sus Determinantes y Políticas de Intervención," *Revista INVI*, 76.

Ungar, Mark and Enrique Desmond Arias. 2012. "Community Policing in Latin America: Innovations and Challenges," *Policing and Society*, 22 (1).

Peer Reviewed Articles:

Arias, Enrique Desmond and Iván Dario Ramírez. 2025. "From gang member to counterinsurgent to family man: A life amid Colombia's complex conflict." *International Sociology* 40 (3): 346-363.

Arias, Enrique Desmond and Philip L. Johnson. 2024. "The implications of illicit networks for changes in anti-narcotics policies." *Crime Law and Social Change* 82: 845-865.

Arias, Enrique Desmond and Liliana Duica-Amaya. 2022. "Advocacy, Misdirection, Protests, and Exit: Strategies of Aspiration and Anxiety amid Crime and Conflict in Putumayo." *Latin American Politics and Society* 64 (4): 24-47.

Antillano, Andrés, Enrique Desmond Arias, and Verónica Zubillaga. 2020. "Violence and Territorial Orders in

- Caracas Venezuela.” *Political Geography* 82 (October).
- Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2019. “Social Responses to Criminal Governance in Rio de Janeiro, Belo Horizonte, Kingston, and Medellín.” *Latin American Research Review* 54 (1): 165-180.
- Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2018. “Criminal Organizations and the Policymaking Process.” *Global Crime* 19 (3-4): 339-361.
- Arias, Enrique Desmond and Nicholas Barnes. 2017. “Crime and Plural Orders in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.” *Current Sociology* 63 (3): 448-465.
- *Winner of the 2018 Best Article Prize from the section on Defense, Public Security, and Democracy of the Latin American Studies Association.*
- Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2014. “Violence, Citizenship, and Religion in a Rio de Janeiro Favela.” *Latin American Research Review* Special Issue: 149-167.
- Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2013. “The Impacts of Differential Armed Dominance of Politics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.” *Studies in Comparative International Development* 48: 263-284.
- Alves, Marcia Cristina and Enrique Desmond Arias. 2012. “Understanding the Fica Vivo Program.” *Policing and Society*, 22 (1): 101-113.
- Ungar, Mark and Enrique Desmond Arias. 2012. “Reassessing Community Oriented Policing in Latin America.” *Policing and Society* 22 (1): 1-13.
- Arias, Enrique Desmond and Mark Ungar. 2009. “Community Policing and Latin America's Citizen Security Crisis.” *Comparative Politics* 41 (4): 409-430.
- Translated as: Arias, Enrique Desmond and Mark Ungar. 2013. “La vigilancia comunitaria y la crisis de seguridad ciudadana en Latinoamérica.” *Revista Estudios Socio-Juridicos* 15 (1): 2013: 19-52.
- Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2007. “Trouble en Route: Drug Trafficking and Clientelism in Rio de Janeiro Shantytowns,” *Qualitative Sociology*, vol. 30 (1), 427-445.
- Revised and Reprinted as: Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2007. “Routing Conflict: Organized Violence and Clientelism in Rio de Janeiro,” In Javier Auyero and Laura Joseph eds., *Political Ethnography*, Springer Publishers (Amsterdam): 110-134.
- Arias, Enrique Desmond and Corinne Davis Rodrigues. 2006. “The Myth of Personal Security: A Discursive Model of Local level Legitimation in Rio's Favelas.” *Latin American Politics and Society*, vol. 48 (4): 53-81.
- Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2006. “The Dynamics of Criminal Governance: Networks and Social Order in Rio de Janeiro,” *Journal of Latin American Studies*, vol. 38 (2): 293-325.
- Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2004. “Faith in our Neighbors: Networks and Social Order in Three Brazilian Favelas,” *Latin American Politics and Society* 46 (1): 1-38.
- Refereed Conference Proceedings:***
- Archaya, Angeela, Jitin Krishnan, Enrique Desmond Arias, and Huzefa Rangwala. 2020. “Homicidal Event Forecasting and Interpretable Analysis Using Hierarchical Attention Model.” International Conference on Social Computing, Behavioral-Cultural Modeling and Prediction and Behavior Representation in Modeling and Simulation (SBP-BRIMS 2020): 140-150.

Akhter, Nasrin, Liang Zhao, Enrique Desmond Arias, Huzefa Rangwala, Naren Ramakrishnan. 2018. "Forecasting Gang Homicides with Multi-level Multi-task Learning." International Conference on Social Computing, Behavioral-Cultural Modeling and Prediction and Behavior Representation in Modeling and Simulation (SBP-BRIMS 2018): 28-37.

Chapters:

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2023. "Criminal Justice Strategies and Violence in Venezuela." In David Smidle, Vernoica Zubillaga, and Rebecca Hanson *The Paradox of Violence in Venezuela*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2022. "Fragility and Pernicious Resilience in Urban Latin America and the Caribbean." In Michael Glass, Taylor Seybolt, and Phil Williams eds., *Urban Violence, Resilience and Security: Government Responses in the Global South*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2022. "Latin American and Caribbean Drug Trafficking Groups." In Paul Gootenberg ed., *The Oxford Handbook on Global Drug History*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2021. "Conclusion: Responding to Cocaine's Moral Economies." In Enrique Desmond Arias and Thomas Grisaffi eds., *Cocaine: From Coca Fields to the Streets*. Durham: Duke University Press:

Arias, Enrique Desmond and Thomas Grisaffi. 2021. Introduction: The Moral Economy of the Cocaine Trade." In Enrique Desmond Arias and Thomas Grisaffi eds., *Cocaine: From Coca Fields to the Streets*. Durham: Duke University Press:

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2019. "Drug Cartels: Neither Holy, Nor Roman, Nor an Empire." In Mangai Natarajan ed. *International and Transnational Crime and Justice*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Arias, Enrique Desmond and Ximena Tocornal Montt. 2018. "Social Disorganisation and Neighbourhood Effects in Latin America: Insights and Limitations." In Jennifer E. Salahub, Markus Gottsbacher, and John de Boer eds., *Social Theories of Urban Violence in the Global South: Towards Safe and Inclusive Cities*. Abingdon: Routledge: 121-138.

Arias, Enrique Desmond and Kayvonne Marston. 2017. "Selective Blindness: Criminal Visibility and Violence in Rio de Janeiro and Kingston." In Gema Santamaria and David Carey Jr., eds., *Violence and Crime in Latin America: Representations and Politics*. Oklahoma University Press: 219-239.

Translated as: Arias, Enrique Desmond and Kayvonne Marston. 2021. "Ceguera selectiva: Visibilidad criminal y violencia en Rio de Janeiro y Kingston. In Gema Kloppe-Santamaria and David Carey eds., *Violencia y crimen en América Latina: Representaciones, poder y política*. Mexico City: CIDE Press.

Arias, Enrique Desmond and Nazia Hussain. 2017. "Organized Crime and Terrorism." In Gary LaFree and Joshua D. Freilich, eds., *The Handbook of the Criminology of Terrorism*. Malden: John Wiley and Sons: 373-384.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2015. "Qualitative Research in Comparative Context: Understanding Crime and Politics in Brazilian Shantytowns." In Wilson Palacios and Jody Miller eds., *Qualitative Research in Criminology, Advances in Criminology vol. 20*. New Brunswick: Transaction Publishers: 193-213.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2015. "Managing Researcher Safety." In Robert Dingwall and Mary Byrne McDonnell eds., *The Sage Handbook of Research Management*. London: Sage Publications: 173-184.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2014. "Gang Politics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil." In Jennifer Hazen and Dennis Rodgers, eds, *Global Gangs: Street Violence Across the World*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press: 237-

254).

Arias, Enrique Desmond and Gipsy Escobar. 2013. "Policing Terrorism in Colombia." In Shlomo G. Shoham and Joshua D. Freilich eds., *Policing and Preventing Terrorism Around the Globe, Israel Studies in Criminology* 11. Whitby: De Sitter: 39-60.

United Nations Development Program (Primary Author). 2013. "Intervenciones: Las Lecciones Aprendidas." In *Informe Regional de Desarrollo Humano, 2013-2014: Seguridad Ciudadana con Rostro Humano: Diagnóstico y Propuestas para América Latina*. New York: United Nations Development Program: 195-213.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2011. "State Power and Central American Maras: A Cross-National Comparison." In Thomas Bruneau, Lucia Dammert, and Jeanne Giraldo eds., *The Maras and Security Challenges in Central America*. Austin: University of Texas Press: 123-136.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2010. "Understanding Criminal Networks, Political Order, and Politics in Latin America and the Caribbean." In Anne Clunan and Harold Trinkunas eds., *Ungoverned Spaces: Alternatives to State Authority in an Era of Softened Sovereignty*. Stanford: Stanford University Press: 115-135.

Arias, Enrique Desmond and Daniel Goldstein. 2010. "Violent Pluralism: Understanding the "New Democracies" of Latin America." In Enrique Desmond Arias and Daniel Goldstein, eds., *Violent Democracy in Latin America: Towards an Interdisciplinary Reconceptualization*. Durham: Duke University Press: 1-34.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2010. "Understanding Violent Pluralism." In Enrique Desmond Arias and Daniel Goldstein, eds., *Violent Democracy in Latin America: Towards and Interdisciplinary Reconceptualization*. Durham: Duke University Press: 242-264.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2009. "Ethnography and the Study of Latin American Politics: An Agenda for Research." In Ed Schatz, ed., *Political Ethnography: What Immersion Contributes to the Study of Politics*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press: 239-254.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2006. "Formal Freedoms, Informal Violence: Academic Freedom and Human Rights in Latin America." In Evan Gerstman and Matthew Streb eds., *Academic Freedom at the Dawn of a New Century: How Terrorism, Governments, and Culture Wars Impact Free Speech at Universities at Home and Abroad*. Sanford: Stanford University Press, 130-153.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2005. "Drug Cartels: Neither Holy, nor Roman, nor and Empire," In Mangai Natarajan ed., *Introduction to International Criminal Justice*. New York: McGraw Hill Publishers: 406-416.

Revised and Reprinted in Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2011. "Drug Cartels: Neither Holy, nor Roman, nor and Empire." In Mangai Natarajan ed., *International Crime and Justice*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Invited Articles

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2025. "Violent Pluralism and Crime in Latin America." *LASA Forum* 56:3.

Burt Jo-Marie and Enrique Desmond Arias. 2024. "Impunidad: Introduction." *LASA Forum* 55: 2.

Arias, Enrique Desmond and Jo-Marie Burt. 2023. "The "New" Extreme Right in Latin America. 54: 4.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2020. "How Criminals Govern." *Current History* 119 (814): 43-48.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2012. "The 2010 Emergency and Party Politics in Kingston, Jamaica. *ReVista: Harvard Review of Latin America*, Winter: 54-56

Fernandez de Castro, Rafael, Enrique Desmond Arias, and Gema Santamaria. 2013. "Violencia en México: Mejor Samba que Cumbia." *Foreign Affairs Latinoamérica* 13: 1: 10-15.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2012. "The 2010 Emergency and Party Politics in Kingston, Jamaica. *ReVista: Harvard Review of Latin America*, Winter: 54-56.

Arias, Enrique Desmond. 2009. "Dispatches from the Field: Milícias and Police Corruption in Rio de Janeiro." *Americas Quarterly* 3 (2): 90-93.

Service to the Latin American Studies Association

2025-2026 Bryce Wood Book Award Committee, Member

2024-2025 Guillermo O'Donnell Award Committee, Member

2024 LASA Program Co-Chair

2020 LASA Track Program Co-Chair for Estado de derecho, derechos, y Ciudadania

2016 LASA Program Track Co-Chair for Violence and (In)security

2012-2014 Brazil Section Co-Chair

2009-2012 Brazil Section, Executive Council Member

Awards, Grants, and Contracts

National Science Foundation

2021-2024. Co-PI. Grant # 2116406 awarded to support research on the Dynamics of Criminal Governance.

Minerva Research Initiative

2017-2022. PI. Grant awarded to study illicit governance structures in Colombia and Afghanistan.

Criminal Investigations and Network Analysis Center of Excellence, George Mason University

2017-2019. Co-PI. Grant to use machine learning algorithms to study patterns of crime in Colombia, Central America, Mexico, and the United States.

Caja Andina de Fomento

2017-2018. Co-PI. Grant awarded by multilateral development institution to research the geograph of crime in Caracas Venezuela.

Executive Education Course in Human Rights, Policía Nacional de Peru and the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú

2014. Co-PI. Contract to provide course on human rights and policing to senior officers of the Policia Nacional del Perú.

Open Society Foundation / Social Science Research Council

2012-2014. Grant awarded to develop pedagogy to prepare graduate students and practitioners to conduct research in highly violent settings.

Open Society Foundation / Social Science Research Council

2012-2013. Grant awarded to develop pedagogy to prepare graduate students and practitioners to conduct research

in highly violent settings.

Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation

2009-2011. Grant awarded to support study of politics in Jamaica.

National Center for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, University of Maryland

2008-2011. Principal Investigator on award to support the study of paramilitary demobilization in Medellin, Colombia.

American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship

2008. Award supports one year of research leave to study violence in irregular armed actors and politics in Rio. Fellowship initially awarded as ACLS/SSRC/NEH Fellowship but was changed to an ACLS Fellowship as a result of rules regarding the concurrence of an NEH and Fulbright award.

Fulbright Scholar Award

Spring 2008. Grant awarded to support research and teaching on public security in Rio de Janeiro.

Summer Team Fellowship for Minority Serving Institutions

Summer 2007. Fellowship awarded to support summer salary and research assistance for project on efforts to demobilize paramilitaries in Colombia. Award provided resources from DHS to support research and data coding at the National Center for the Study of Terror and Responses to Terrorism at the University of Maryland- College Park.

Tinker Foundation Institutional Grant

2007-2008. Principal Investigator on grant to evaluate community policing in Latin America.

Donal E. J. MacNamara Award

2006. Prize given annually by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice to the member of the junior faculty who has made the most substantial contribution to the study of criminal justice, broadly defined.

Scott Kloeck-Jensen International Practitioner Fellow

Summer 2001. Fellowship supported work on community policing program with Viva Rio, a Non-Governmental Organization in Rio de Janeiro.

Fulbright Student Award

April, 1998 to April, 1999. Fellowship awarded for dissertation research in Brazil.

Dorothy Danforth Compton Fellow of the Institute for the Study of World Politics

June to December 1997. Fellowship awarded to pursue research on world politics.

Tinker Research Fellow of Latin American and Iberian Studies Center

Summer, 1997. Fellowship granted to support short-term dissertation research.

MacArthur Fellow of Global Studies Research Program

Fall, 1995 to Fall, 2001. Fellowship awarded to graduate students to support research on the developing world.

Advanced Opportunity Fellow

Fall, 1994 to Spring, 1996. Fellowship awarded to support graduate study by minorities at the University of Wisconsin.

Foreign Language Areas Studies Fellow in Portuguese

Summer, 1994. Fellowship given to fund advanced language training.